WE CLAIM:

1.   A method for dynamically generating a user interface menu, the method comprising:

storing a menu definition file containing data describing one or more menu items to be displayed as the menu;

storing a view definition file separate from the menu definition file, the view definition file containing data describing how the menu should appear when displayed; and

utilizing the contents of the menu definition file and the view definition file to dynamically generate the menu.

2.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the menu comprises an items component for displaying each of the one or more menu items.

3.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the menu further comprises a preview component for displaying a preview corresponding to a currently selected menu item.

4.   The method of Claim 3, wherein the menu further comprises a category component for displaying information corresponding to a group of menu items.

5.   The method of Claim 4, wherein for each of said one or more menu items the menu definition file stores data identifying a graphic that should be displayed for the menu item in the items component when the menu item is unselected.

6.   The method of Claim 5, wherein for each of said one or more menu items the menu definition file stores data identifying a graphic that should be displayed in the preview component when a menu item is selected.

7.   The method of Claim 6, wherein for each of said one or more menu items the menu definition file stores a text label to be displayed for each menu item in the items component.

8.   The method of Claim 7, wherein for each of said one or more menu items the menu definition file stores a text description to be displayed for each menu item in the preview component.

9.   The method of Claim 8, wherein for each of said one or more menu items the menu definition file stores data identifying an action to be performed if a request to execute a selected menu item is received.

10.   The method of Claim 9, wherein said one or more menu items may comprise an item or a folder.

11.   The method of Claim 10, wherein the view definition file stores data defining a style to be utilized when displaying the menu defined within the menu definition file.

12.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the style comprises data identifying a background image to be utilized within the items component.

13.   The method of Claim 12, wherein the style further comprises data defining an on screen position for each of the menu items within the items component.

14.   The method of Claim 13, further comprising receiving an updated menu definition file and an updated view definition file and replacing the menu definition file with the updated menu definition file and replacing the view definition file with the updated view definition file.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein the updated menu definition file and the updated view definition file are received via a wireless connection.

16. The method of Claim 14, wherein the updated menu definition file and the updated view definition file are received via a memory device.

17. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, will cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

18. A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.